Economic Offences Committed by Offi- cials of Ministry of Food

1396. SHRI ANANT RAM. JAISWAL:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complains against 'A', 'B' and 'C group officials of the Ministry of Food and its attached offices for economic offences eic. reported during the last two years and the details thereof, category-wise" and office-wise;

(b) the number of cases filed and the number of cases registered during the above period, year-wise and category-wise;

(c) the number of cases reported to the Central Vigilance Commission during the above period and the action taken thereon; and

(d) whether some Members of Parliament have reported the illegal economic favours committed by the officers of the Ministry of Food and its attached offices to the Central Vigilance Commission for investigation during this period, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement indicating the category-wise number of complaints against the officials of 'A', 'B' and 'C group of the Ministry of Food and its attached officos for economic offences etc., received during the last two years and action taken thereon is attached. (See below).

(d) No Member of Parliament has reported the illegal economic offences committed by the officers of Ministry of Food, and its attached offices to the Central Vigilance Commission during the last two years.

Statement

CATEGORY-WISE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AGAINST THE OFFICIAL OF MINISTRY OF FOOD AND ITS ATTACHED OFFICES DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS.

MINISTRY OF FOOD							
Year	-	Category			Cases filed			Cases referred to CVS
	'A'	'B'	<C	'A'	'B'	'C	
1993	2	3	2	—	—	—	3*
1994	1	*ATTACHED/SUBORDINATE OFFICES*					
1993		2	1	1	2	1	
1994							

*In 1994, three complaints were received in which 3 category 'B' and 2 category 'C officials were involved. All the three cases have been referred to CVC for first stage advice. Advice of CVC is awaited.

Minimum wages for Agricultural Labour

1397. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Ministry of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that provisions of Minimum Wages Act are implemented for agricultural labour; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to bring forward a comprehensive Bill for farm labour; if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c)

Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Government for the fixation/revision and enforcement of minimum rate of wages for the scheduled employment in Agriculture. The Act also provide for the fixation of working hours, weekly, days of rest and payment for overtime etc. The .Central Government as well as all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have fixed the minimum rate of wages and have framed rules in respect of agricultural workers. The Enforcement Machinery set up under the Act by the various appropriate Governments conducts regular inspections and necessary action is taken whenever any violation to the Act comes to their notice. The proposal for bringing forward a comprehensive bill for agricultural labour is under the active consideration of Government.

पांचवें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौते को अंतिम

रूप दिया जाना

1398. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे :** क्या कायेला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पांचवें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौते को तय किया जा चुका है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है,

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है, और

(घ) इस समझौते को कब तक तय किए जाने की संभावना है ?

कोयला राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) : (क) से (घ) कोयला उद्योग के लिए संयुक्त द्विपीक्षीय समिति पर कामगारों तथा प्रबंधन के प्रति निधियों के बीच दिनांक 29.4.1995 को एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर हुए, जिसमें राष्ट्रीय कोयला मजदूरी समझौता-5 की निम्न विस्तृत शर्तें, जैसे न्यूनतम मूल मजदूरी, वार्षिक, वेतनवृद्धि की दरें, वेतनमान न्यूनतम गारन्टी लाभ, भूमिगत भत्ते, अन्य भत्ते शामिल है । दोनों पक्ष समझौते के विस्तृत प्रावधनों पर विचार-विमर्श कर रहे हैं और इसके शीघ्र ही अंतिम रूप दिए जाने की संभावना है ।

Action Plan to encourage consumer move-ment

1399. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action plan to encourage consumer movement in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to promote consumer movement?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUT A SINGH): (a) to (d) The Government has taken a numbe*r of measures to increase consumer consciousness amongst people. Such measures include preparation .of audio visual material, printed literature in the form of booklets, brochures, posters, postcard size material etc. in the field of consumer protection. It is also publishing a quarterly journal "Upabhokta Jagaran" which disseminates useful information to the consumers. The printed material is made available to consumer organisations free of cost. In addition, Consumer Welfare Fund has been set up to give financial assistance to voluntary consumer organisations for undertaking activities in the field of consumer protection and promoting consumer movement in all parts of the country.

Coal production in CIL

1400. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minsiter of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of coal in each Colliery under the Coal India Limited during each of the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the profits eameoMosses incurred during the said period;

(c) whether there is any plan for modernisation of these Collieries; and